

The Times' Editorial and Feature Page

THE OKLAHOMA TIMES

THE PAPER THAT GOES HOME!
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T. A. LATTA, Editor

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The Times invites writers of comment, criticism and suggestion from its readers, upon any subject and upon its manner of presenting and treating them. A letter, to receive consideration, must contain the name and address of the writer, but these will not be published if the writer objects.

THE CRY FOR TAXES

Always the cry goes up for more taxes. The public officer, instead of making both ends meet with the tax income authorized by the people sets himself diligently at work to wheedle the people into raising more money. Every possible method for increasing the income is canvassed, and he who discovers something new is considered a statesman.

This is true no less of federal circles than of state circles. Secretary McAdoo is eager for a greater national income. The record does not show that he has at any time concerned himself with the possibilities of reducing expenditures. His sole efforts are directed to increasing the taxes.

The other day he hit on the idea of imposing a war tax on gasoline. Two cents per gallon is the figure suggested. Already the people of the United States have been required to pay something more than a hundred million dollars in war tax. Just why we should be called on to pay a war tax, when we are at peace and the segudal of the day is the enormous earnings of industrial concerns as a result of war orders, is a matter difficult to determine, but we shall let that pass.

The proposed tax on gasoline is a tax on comparatively poor people. Doubtless the secretary believes the oil marketers will pay it. But doubtless the oil marketers will pass it on to the final consumers. And there you are.

The best refining oil known returns about nine gallons of gasoline to the barrel. Here is eighteen cents added to the barrel of oil. This runs down to us low as four gallons. In such godes the increase in cost would be eight cents per barrel.

Poor people in increasing numbers use gasoline in place of coal for domestic purposes. The price of gasoline is a matter of concern to the poor more than to the rich. Any increase in its price is a direct increase in the cost of living—an increase that cannot well be afforded. If it can be avoided the people want to avoid it.

A tax on gasoline will mean that tens of thousands of families will be derived of their only means of Sunday recreation. They will feel that tax more directly than any other that could be imposed. It will mean the isolation of farmers' families and will bring discouragement to those who are building up the rural districts.

Already the cost of gasoline is burdensome. Add two cents a gallon as a levy for government purposes and the price will instantly be at prohibitive figures, gasoline will become a luxury, and a half-dozen important industries will become vitally affected.

Secretary McAdoo should guess again.

AN OLD PIECE AND A GOOD ONE

Last week Oklahoma City tested the real thing in theatricals. The three performances of the "New Henrietta" given here by an organization of five stars met every requirement that a mixed public is pleased to put upon the theater. The piece itself had no little part in the sum total of pleasure which the performance gave. Few who saw the show would care to divorce the play from the players as they recall the treat. Yet the play would stand of itself; it possesses the bone and sinew of strength.

"The Henrietta" was written years and years ago. It served as a faithful vehicle for Stuart Robson, a fellow of infinite worth in his day and an actor who brought a dash of mannerism to the part of Hertie, the tam. The "Henrietta" is a good reading play which is not necessarily a touchstone to excellence as a production. But it reads along charmingly, excitingly just as do Sheridan's comedies. And it has endured and will outlive all the Cranes and Robsons and Arthuckles, Rosses, Binghams and Taliifers that essay its varied roles.

THREE MEN IN A BOAT, AND THEN SOME

Henry Ford and his 175 pence advocacy volunteers have sailed. In his parting statement the promoter of the enterprise frankly admitted that he did not know exactly what he was going for but that he was on his way—hitting the trail for a cause to which he is no doubt sincerely devoted.

Seldom has a man's sincere effort in any direction been held up to more general as well as pointed ridicule. The bigness of the prompting seems to have been entirely lost sight of. Had derision pointed its finger to some of the party, many of whom may be justifiably suspected of

having joined the juncture just to do that, and seen what happens, the panning would have evoked more sympathy. Mr. Ford is no doubt sincere and the efficacy of his convictions in the subject of peace may yet find establishment.

Fair minded writers accord the peace ship idea the merit of being well in itself, but irrespective in its outcome. A mere belief that peace is a natural state appears to be encouraged by every text of history. But it is upon the first three that the peace ship passengers have no claim with the author that their views are in keeping with the feelings and their neutral members. So, it isn't the idea, it isn't Mr. Ford, nor is it the exploitation of hope of peace that generates respect. It is the failure to recognize the faults of officially trying to reform a foolishness that lays Mr. Ford open to criticism.

CHRISTMAS DAYS ARE COMING

It is the season of the year when the days grow shorter, and the weeks slip from the calendar. At your desk, in the counting room office or home, while you stand before the kitchen stove, hovering above the grate, there come thoughts of other days, other scenes, other times.

Mayhap it is a broken chain upon which David, that causes the tears to well in your eyes. You see in sleep like when heart grows weary and knew its unto and He's covenant. And a single one kiss that in every sense drowns. Oh, it may be just happy memories of joyful gatherings in the old home back there.

There is a slightly hoarse, almost throaty sound in the season. Then our hearts are opened charity and love and forgiveness spring to our minds and will yield. The pitiful expression of distress gets our attention and holds it; the miseries are remembered in our privacies, and we know as at no other time, that it is more blessed to give than to receive.

And, if it be that your soul mate has been broken, in times gone, by the trial keeper, that face stands before you and will not be put away. You are conscious of a present, pale sentinel at your shoulder—that radiates a glow; mortal senses are incapable of grasping, yet burn in with delight.

Who will say that in all this we are not to see the aftermath of that glory that the shepherds two centuries ago to where the babe in the manger lay and opened wide the door of Hope and Promise to a stricken race?

A SIGNIFICANT INCIDENT

The election of Senator Clark of Arkansas, president pro tem of the United States senate, can hardly be viewed in any other light than a blow at the administration. Senator Clark was called eccentric and many other times best session because he broke from the Democratic caucus and opposed the administration plan for a government owned meat packing.

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In the drama which resulted in his selection as president pro tem this was raised against him, and the line clearly drawn between the supporters of the president and those senators who cling to the idea that they are elected to represent states and not the president. Clark won 28-23.

Thus in the first test of strength the administration finds itself in a minority position in its own party. Evidently the national legislature is about to disown the doctrine of a triumphant government, and proposes to play its own part quite regardless of executive usurpation.

We hope this proves to be the case. For it will be a great day for the United States government when the executive power is driven back into constitutional bounds and the legislative assumes its full quota of influence and responsibility.

Kishner says England will have an army of 100 million in the spring. Which spring?

But suppose Hank played in great luck and the war does start closing right after he arrives?

AFTERTHOUGHTS

A current writer refers to them as "corduroy" trousers. There is no such thing. Neither garments made of canvas are "pants."

Every agent who sells goods on the installment plan backs convincing argument.

A girl not only buys a blouse just before she gets married, but she also has her teeth fixed at her expense.

A woman's idea of a perfect husband is one who provides well for her folks.

The men who can be induced to buy gold bricks are surprisingly few in number. But a smart salesman can sell a diamond ring to any customer.

Make up your mind to one thing. If a privilege is worth anything to you some one will be around to collect for it.

"I notice," said Eph Wiley yesterday, "that there are 500,000 homeless cats in Chicago. There are more than that so far as I am concerned."

Answer: It will not be necessary for you to demand other security, as this transaction of yours was not in violation of the bulk sales law, and was not a transfer of property, and consequently does not require written notice to creditors. Should anything happen, you will have a prior right.

TIMES' SPILLWAY

"They are sisters and have never been married," says peculiar sentence in Pringle News.

"Eased for failing to 'root,'" reads lead in Stillwater Gazette. And in the same issue story tells about a joyful gentleman who paid \$5 for privilege of "rooting."

THE LOG OF A MARRIAGE SHIP

BY SHEA MILLARD

I have just finished re-reading the entries I have made in this journal since last September, when I began it. Some of the things I have set down made me smile, at others I could not restrain laughing, and some I might confess brought tears to my eyes.

It is strange how happenings lose their importance when they fade into the mist of the past. As I came across the account of some of the things that have made me unhappy since I came to New York to live I could not help but feel that I had even considered them as other than the natural results of my change of residence.

I suppose I should be thankful that I do not lug my troubles. It is true that I let them assume proportions entirely beyond their significance, but once they are past I forget all about them. I must cultivate the attitude that views troubles philosophically when they arrive. I must not wait for them to overtake me before beginning to fight them. The threshes have the right idea, I believe in their motto, "This too will pass."

Tuesday night the Terrene met at Washington for the purpose of communicating to the Congressmen from this country what has been done in regard to this country. Mr. Johnson was elected temporary chairman and Mr. Denison, temporary secretary. The meeting adjourned to the evening session, which was adjourned until the next day.

The Times day before yesterday sent off other papers in the publication of a summary of the interior's message.

The Gazette and Journal will be in yesterday's Times more fully a summary of the action taken by the House of Representatives in its session, and the Senate in its session, in regard to the proposed amendment to the Constitution.

I venture to say that the majority of persons in this country are now in favor of the proposed amendment to the Constitution, and that the people of Oklahoma should take the earliest consideration.

CHARLES H. PEETERS

Hon. Harry S. Cunningham of Georgia

The Gazette and Journal will be in yesterday's Times more fully a summary of the action taken by the House of Representatives in its session, and the Senate in its session, in regard to the proposed amendment to the Constitution.

One of the most pleasant sensations in the history of South Oklahoma was the wedding last fall of Mr. William H. Kreyer and Miss Ethel Wheeler. The ceremony was performed by Rev. C. O. Sherrill, pastor of the Methodist church, and was attended by a large number of friends of the bridegroom.

On the eve of the wedding party, the couple, accompanied by their parents, went to the church, and were married at 12 o'clock.

The Rev. J. D. Doug received today from Frank G. L. Doug a telegram from Dr. H. M. Moore, the president of the University of Oklahoma, informing him that he has been elected permanent chairman of the board of trustees of the university.

He will be succeeded by Dr. W. C. Thompson, who has accepted the position.

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